WITHERNSEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

C O P Y.

Withernsea,

20th March 1914.

TO:

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WITHERNSEA.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S ANNUAL REPORT

for 1913.

Gentlemen,

I herewith present my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 1913.

I estimate the population for the year 1913 at 2450 being an increase of 50 on last year.

There were 29 Births registered during the year and none being transferable,,this is the net number and the Birth rate is 11.8 per 1,000, as compared with 21.2 in 1912 and 17.6 in 1911. The Birth Rate for the whole of England and Wales in 1913 was 23.9.

25 Deaths occurred in the District of which 7 were of persons belonging to other districts and are to be subtracted, whilst 4 persons belonging to the district died elsewhere and are to be added. The net number of Deaths is therefore 22 and the Death Rate 8.9 per 1,000 as compared with our rate of 10.8 in 1912, and 13.7 in 1911. The Rate for the whole of England and Wales in 1913 is 13.4.

Two deaths occurred under the age of one year giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 68.9 per 1,000 Births. The Rate for the whole of England and Wales being 109.0.

Of the 22 deaths three were of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Consumption). In two of these, though not transferable the persons having given up their homes elsewhere to come and reside here, the disease was clearly not contracted here. One indeed came into the district with a full knowledge of and solely onaccount of the disease, while the others came to reside here onaccount of a broken down condition of health which was realy their disease in the early stages.

Excepting these no death from Infectious Disease occurred in the district.

34 Cases of Infectious disease where reported during the year:-

8 Scarlet fever

7 Pulmonary Tuberculosis

2 Other Tuberculosis

3 Erysipelas

2 Diptheria

2 Enteric.

The eight cases of Scarlet fever were all of a mild type and were sucessfully isolated at home.

Of the seven cases of Pulmonary tuberculosis only one or at the most two can be said to have been contracted while the persons were residing at Withernsea. Five certainly contracted the decease before they came to reside here.

By the Public Health Tuberculosis Regulations of 1912, Compulsory Notification of all forms of Tuberculosis occurring in whatever part of the body came into force on February 1st. 1913.

The two cases of Diptheria, one in June and one in September, occurred in different localities. Both were of a mild type. Both were verefied bacteriologically, neither were fatal. I was unable to trace either to a source.

There were two cases of Enteric Fever one in October and one in November. Both were of a mild type. In no way were these two connected. Both were treated at home. In each case the excreta were collected in special enamel pails containing a strong disinfectant and removed daily and separately from the ordinary nightsoil, the pails and disinfectants being supplied by your Council. In each case the water supplying the house was sent for analysis with negative result.

Enteric Fever is unusual at Withernsea, there having been during the previous ten years only three cases, one in 1904, one in 1906 and one in 1909.

In all cases of Infectious Decease reported the houses are disinfected by the Sanitary Authority or to my satisfaction by the occupier, after death removal or convalescence.

During this exceptionally dry year the want of an efficient water supply was again acutely felt. Many Wells were dry and in many cases water for ordinary domestic purposes had to be purchased by the bucket full.

That our Water Supply is insufficient and unsafe has long been common Knowledge and has been a serious hinderance to our progress. Many Medical Men of Hull and neighbourhood have for years been refusing to allow their patients to visit or reside here, solely on account of the water.

The Sewerage of the twenty eight Houses on Waxholme Road of which I made mention in my reports for 1910, 1911 and 1912 has been held in abeyance, pending the settlement of the question of the New North Road which is to carry the required sewer, and up to the end of the year the question remained unsettled. Since then I understand an agreement has been arrived at which arranges for this sewer being completed within seven years.

Since my last report the portion of the Main Sewer Outfall which was destroyed by a Storm in November 1913, has been temporarily repaired.

In the Fire which destroyed the Municipal Buildings on September 22nd. 1913 , were destroyed all the Records of Sanitary work done up to that date in 1913 and all previous years.

About 200 Houses were inspected under the Housing and Town Planning Act. One closing order was made and afterwards removed upon the necessary repairs being effected.

Six new houses were built during the year together with one new Workshop (Cycle Repairs) and one new Factory (Boot making)

Since the Fire in September the waters from three wells have been sent for analysis:- From one it was twice reported bad. From the second fair and from the third (after cleaning the well) a second analysis gave the water as good.

In April and August I made with the Inspector of Nuisances General Inspectors of the District, and on various other occasions when requested to do so I made inspections in isolated cases.

The Nuisance Inspector makes a formal inspection of the district each month.

Each Nuisance as found was abated.

No overcrowding was found.

There are no common lodging houses in the District.

The housing of Artizans and Labourers is good.

There is no special trade or industry carried on in the District. The "Bootmaking Factory" above referred to employs only two or three hands.

There are no offensive trades.

There are no houses with insufficient air space about them and the cleanliness of the surroundings is generally good.

The collection of Nightsoil and dry dust , continues to be let by Contract and is satisfactorily done. It is taken out of the district by the Contractors, and disposed of for agricultural purposes.

The plans of all new houses are submitted to your Council for approval, and the building is supervised by the Surveyor.

There areon the Register 12 purveyors of milk, 3 Dairies, and 2 Cowsheds.

The Cowsheds were inspected four times during the year. They were found to be in a satisfactory condition, and limewashing was done twice a year.

The County Council Inspector continues from time to time to take samples of milk offered for sale.

With regard to Tuberculous milk, no action was taken

There are four Slaughter-houses on the Register. These were on all occasions found clean and in good order.

No meat was condemned as Tuberculous. We have no Inspector with a special certificate for meat inspection.

There are 12 Workshops and 5 Factories in the district. They were inspected twice during the year and no fault was found with their conditions.

The Council Schools, which are situated on the Hull

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Road are in excellent condition, and their water supply is satisfactory.

Appended are:-

a. Tables of Vital Statistics, and Infectious Diseases.

b. A Special Table relative to Factories and Workshops.

c. A list of Sanitary Work done during the year.

d. A Table of Action taken under the Housing and Town Planning &c., Act, 1909.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) A.E.Sproulle.

Medical Officer of Health.